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The Hongkong Telegraph

WEATHER FORECAST

Saturday, Jan. 5.

January 5, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 49 2 p.m. 55
Humidity 36

(ESTABLISHED 1851)
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Humidity 55

7846 日三月一十

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1918.

六月一號香港

SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS
ANNUAL

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE NEW RUSSIAN SITUATION.

The Bolsheviks' Aims Explained.

London, January 4.

The *Daily Chronicle* publishes a long interview with M. Litvinoff, the new Russian Plenipotentiary in London, whom it pictures in most eloquent terms, emphasising his keen intelligence, force of will and mastery of English. M. Litvinoff eloquently defended the Bolsheviks, not as usurpers, but as the savours of the Revolution. The responsibility for the internecine bloodshed fell on the irreconcilable Social Revolutionaries with General Kornilov's and General Kaledin's forces. It was grossly mischievous to represent the Bolsheviks as pro-German, as anti-Ally, or as mere pacifists. They realised that Kaiserism and mere Junkerism were the greatest obstacles to the emancipation of the international proletariat, but they were opposed to the replacing of Prussian militarism by Russian, French or British militarism. He rose to his feet, his voice ringing with the conviction of religious fervour, and said he was sanguine enough to imagine that the Russian and the German armies on the Eastern Front may some day march together against the common foes of the world's proletariat in Germany, and perhaps in other countries. He believed, in fact, that by the negotiation and propaganda now proceeding M. Trotsky and M. Lenin were contributing more effectively to the downfall of Kaiserism than the Allies fighting in the West. He concluded by saying that the Bolsheviks would regard a separate peace as a disaster, but it might be inevitable. It was for the Allied democracies to prevent it by raising their voices immediately.

Recognition of Lenin Government Possible.

London, January 4.

The *Daily Chronicle* says that in view of the developments between Russia and the Central Powers it is understood that *de facto* recognition may be accorded by the Western Powers to the Lenin Government, and that a democratic statement of Allied policy will shortly be sent to Russia. M. Litvinoff may, *de facto*, be recognised and Sir George Buchanan be replaced by a diplomat sympathetic to the Russian Revolutionary ideas.

M. Tchitcherin, whom the Bolsheviks first proposed to appoint as Ambassador to London while interned at Brixton, has been released and left for Russia last night, accompanied by M. Petroff, released from internment at Islington.

The Enemy's Two Voices.

London, January 4.

The *Daily News*' correspondent at Petrograd says that during the negotiations at Brasilitovsk there were two distinct tendencies among the enemy delegations. One was annexationist, represented by General Hoffmann, Prince Leopold's Chief of Staff, and the other, which was more moderate, was represented by Herr von Kuehnsen and Count Czernin. Disputes were frequent and constant appeals were sent to Berlin, which were supported by the moderates. The Russians have refused to return prisoners of war till peace is signed.

Proposed Transfer of Pourparlers to Stockholm.

London, January 4.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says that the President of the Russian Peace Delegation telegraphed on January 2 to the Austro-German and Turco-Bulgarian Delegations as follows:—"The Russian Government considers it urgent to ultimately conduct the peace pourparlers in neutral territory and proposes to transfer them to Stockholm. The Delegation awaits a reply at Petrograd. With reference to the Austro-German proposal contained in Articles 1 and 2, cabled on December 30, the Russian Government and also the Central Executive Committee of the Soviets, are in agreement with the opinion of our Delegation and considers the proposal contrary to the principle of free national self-determination, even in the restricted terms of the Quadruplice's reply to our Delegation."

British Labour Views Explained.

London, January 4.

Mr. Arthur Henderson has interviewed M. Tchitcherin at Brixton and explained to him the views of British Labour for conveyance to the Bolshevik Government.

Recognition Urged.

London, January 4.

The *Daily Chronicle* and the *Daily News*, in editorial, urge the Allies and the United States to recognise the Bolshevik Government.

"Sowing to the Wind."

London, January 4.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd, the newspapers urge the rejection of the German designs on Poland and the Baltic Provinces. The Maximalists' *Pravda* stated that the German Imperialists are out in their reckoning. If the Generals do not wish to renounce plunder, the soldiers themselves will conclude a soldiers' peace. It recalls last year's German naval mutiny, adding "Messieurs Imperialists, you are sowing to the wind and you will reap a whirlwind."

British Ambassador's Ill-health.

London, January 4.

The *Times* gives an account of a somewhat serious breakdown in health of Sir George Buchanan, the British Ambassador in Petrograd. He has been granted leave of absence and shortly returns Home. It is improbable that any successor will be appointed for the present. If events make the retention of the Embassy desirable, it will be left under the control of the Charge d'Affaires.

Opening of Constituent Assembly.

London, January 4.

A message from Petrograd states that the Council of Commissars has fixed the 18th instant as the date for the opening of the Constituent Assembly, provided there is the necessary quorum of four hundred.

Interesting Documents Discovered.

London, January 4.

A Petrograd message says the Bolsheviks announce that among the papers discovered at the Foreign Ministry are interesting documents dealing with pourparlers between the German and Russian Imperial Governments on the subject of an International Convention for fighting Socialism. Other curious documents have lately been unearthed dealing with the time immediately preceding the war and relating to German policy. The contents will be published when the documents have been classified.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE NEW RUSSIAN SITUATION.

Altitude Towards Ukraine.

London, January 4.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says the Bolshevik Commissars promise that they will not make war against Ukraine if Ukraine allows the Maximalists to attack General Kaledin.

Other Negotiations Held Up.

London, January 4.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says the negotiations regarding the repatriation of war prisoners have been held up, owing to the Maximalist insistence on free communication with Austro-German Socialists and the appointment of a Commission to report on the hundreds of thousands of Poles forced to work in German factories.

BRITISH PRISONERS FROM GERMANY.

Protest Against Delay in Embarkation.

London, January 4.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, the correspondent of the *Telegraph* states that Major General Hanbury Williams, Chief of the British War Prisoners at the Hague, has protested to the Dutch Government in connection with yesterday's confusion during the embarkation of the wounded men from Germany. The trouble was apparently due to the delayed arrival of trains, in connection with which a Dutch protest to Germany is pending. Three hundred and sixty British civilians and twenty Lascars, including seventeen mental cases, arrived in the morning from Bielefeld. The train took 24 hours. Three thousand prisoners still remain at Bielefeld, of which a thousand are expecting release shortly.

BRITAIN'S MAN-POWER PROBLEM.

Departure from Existing Arrangements Imperative.

London, January 4.

An official message states that Mr. Barnes presided at a meeting of the Government and Trade Unions associated with recruiting in connection with protected occupations.

Sir Auckland Geddes stated that the War Cabinet had studied the man-power resources of all the belligerents. The Russian situation had completely altered the position in the last six months, but the American armies would ultimately more than redress the balance. The speed with which they could be put in the field was almost entirely a question of tonnage. Meanwhile a great strain would be thrown on Britain's resources. There were three pre-requisites to victory—an increase in the output of shipping, a saving of tonnage and the maintenance of the armies in the field. Hence a departure from the existing arrangements was imperative, inasmuch as the maintenance of the armies in the field was impossible unless a large number were recruited from munitions, both for technical and fighting units.

The meeting adjourned until to-morrow.

PREMIER'S APPEAL TO AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

London, January 4.

The Prime Minister, in a message to the agricultural labourers of Great Britain, appeals to all to do their utmost to help grow more food. He says:—"There is a world-wide shortage of food and we may have to feed the Army and the Navy, also ourselves, on what we grow at home."

AMERICA'S WAR SPIRIT.

London, January 4.

President Wilson, in a New Year message to Mr. Lloyd George, refers to America's resolution to continue to put every man and resource of the United States into the imperative task of winning an honourable peace. The message says: "Your message on behalf of the British War Cabinet is deeply appreciated and our spirits respond to its friendly challenge."

CANADA'S BIG SHIPBUILDING SCHEME.

London, January 4.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Ottawa, the Government is inaugurating a vigorous shipbuilding policy, which will utilise all the Canadian shipyards, the capacity of which is 250,000 tons annually. Three classes of ships will be built—of three thousand tons, five thousand, and eight thousand to ten thousand. The Government is also negotiating for the construction of the necessary rolling mills.

AUSTRALIA'S DECISION ON CONSCRIPTION.

London, January 4.

Reuter's correspondent at Melbourne states that the latest returns of the Referendum show that there is a majority of 750 votes in the Australian Forces in favour of Conscription. The totals of all classes show a majority against Conscription of 170,000.

AUSTRALIAN PARTY LEADERSHIP.

London, January 4.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Melbourne, the Nationalist Party has resolved by 63 votes to 2 that Mr. Hughes retain the Leadership.

THE HARBIN TROUBLES.

London, January 4.

Reuter's correspondent at Peking says that a telegram from Harbin reports that order has been restored along the Chinese Eastern Railway, where the Maximalists have surrendered. A thousand Chinese troops have arrived at a Manchuria station.

FRENCH SHIPPING LOSSES.

London, January 4.

In the French shipping returns, the number of vessels above 1,000 tons sunk should be two, and not nine, as previously cableled.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

Destructive British Bombardments.

London, January 4.

A British Italian official message states:—"Our artillery carried out destructive bombardments on enemy batteries. Our airmen carried out successful bombing raids. We raided across the Po, took some prisoners.

The Recent French Success.

London, January 4.

Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters in Italy, writing on January 3, states:—"In the recent Mount Tomba success the French applied a lesson learnt on the Somme and other battlefields. The attack was prepared most carefully and carried out in the most brilliant style of mountain warfare. The enemy masses suffered considerably from the French artillery preparation. The most difficult task was on the left flank, crossing the ravine. When this was accomplished, the centre-right, executed a converging movement in conjunction with the left, which soon overwhelmed the Austrian resistance. The German reserves counter-attacked too late to produce a serious effect. The French now overlook all the further side of Mount Tomba and the Alana Valley. The British aviators prevented enemy observation and reported within twenty minutes that all the objectives had been gained. British patrols crossed the Po, inflicting losses and bringing back prisoners."

ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

German Raiders Driven Off.

London, January 4.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communiqué, states:—"Balders were driven off before they reached our positions east of Epehy. Hostile artillery is more active southwest and west of Cambrai and is also active along the front south of Lens. to Armentieres and in the neighbourhood of Zonnebeke. Our aeroplanes last night dropped a few bombs on Arvin, despite the bid.

Local Fighting on Cambrai Front.

London, January 4.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communiqué, states:—"There was local fighting yesterday afternoon on the Cambrai front, near the Canal du Nord, but it did not produce any material change. We advanced our line slightly at night south of Lens. There is hostile artillery firing at Baillecourt and at Ypres.

SEQUEL TO CAMBRAI REVERSE.

London, January 4.

The *Daily Chronicle* reports that the enquiry conducted by Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig and Lord Derby into the reverse at Cambrai has been completed. Several responsible officers have already retired.

A COMING LABOUR CONFERENCE.

London, January 4.

M. Huysman, the Secretary of the International Socialist Bureau, will attend the annual Labour Conference at Nottingham on January 22.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

BRITISH OVERSEAS COMMERCE.

London, January 3.

Sir Albert Stanley, the President of the Board of Trade, in a foreword in the current number of the "Board of Trade Journal" outlines the programme of the Board's extended activities towards the increasing of overseas commerce, including the dissemination of up to date information from all parts of the world. The "Journal" states that a new department of Overseas Trade will control the Board of Trade Commission Service within the Empire, the Foreign Office Commercial Attaché Service within the Empire, and the Foreign Office's Commercial Attaché Service. It is intended to extend the Trade Commissioner Service to India and some of the principal Crown Colonies, and greatly increase it for commercial purposes. The "Journal" describes the new system of distribution of information under pledge of secrecy to traders and manufacturers, regarding possible importers in certain foreign countries of British manufactured goods. The idea is the outcome of the Enemy Trading Act. Ten thousand traders have already availed themselves of its use, all of whose bona fides have been doubly checked with the assistance of the leading commercial organisations. Even more confidential and more secret is the special register which provides wider information regarding trade openings abroad, reports on foreign competition and various overseas industries.

ATTEMPTED FRATERNISATION ON WESTERN FRONT.

London, January 3.

Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters says:—"The Germans attempted to fraternize on New Year's Eve, displaying during the day a message lifted above the parapet. One of these was intended for Australian consumption and suggested that as the Germans were giving the Russians peace, perhaps the Anzacs would be glad of peace also, whereupon a burst of firing shattered the notice board. Subsequently, about mid-night, the Germans firing a large number of grenades, accompanied by a barrage of machine gun fire and set up a fine display of Very-lights of all colours on the whole length of the front and a tremendous bass voice roared three times in succession 'A Happy New Year Australia'."

MR. WARDLE NOT RETIRING.

London, January 3.

Mr. Wardle denies his resignation from the Secretary of State for Trade.

(Continued on page 8.)

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

THE SILVER MARKET.

Demand Likely to Exceed Supply.

London, January 3.

The silver market is steady. The *Times* says that the demand for silver in 1918 is again expected to exceed the world's production, owing to the requirements of Indian and European coinage. The stock of silver in London is now almost negligible.

OBITUARY.

Mr. J. M. C. Galletly.

It is with very deep regret (says the *N. C. Daily News* of December 31) that we learn of the death, at the early age of 42 years, of Mr. J. M. C. Galletly, of the firm of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., which occurred at the Shanghai Isolation Hospital on Saturday afternoon. It was not until a fortnight ago that Mr. Galletly showed signs of sickness, then

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Oil Drilling Cables of any size up to 3,000 feet in length.
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the above Company are prepared
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CAN BE CURED.

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all night coughing and gasping for
breath when a SINGEL fits.

NOBBS' ASTHMA CURE
will give you certain, prompt relief and
ensure a good night's rest! This the
only genuine cure for Asthma discovered
by Mr. NOBBS, a qualified Chemist, and
a sufferer for many years, will, if taken
when necessary, effect a radical cure of this
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Hongkong, 16th August, 1916.

NOTICES.

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AND
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1400 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.
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FIRST-CLASS RESIDENTIAL AND TOURIST HOTEL. Dining Room, Restaurant, Health and
Exercise Room, Swimming Pool, By-Product Laundry, and a series of six flights of stairs to Central
Moderate Tariff and Excellent Cuisine. Roof Garden and Social Rooms. European Summer
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GRAND HOTEL

A first-class and up-to-date Hotel, most convenient location, with the intimacy of all the
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The Hotel now offers, for Residents and Tourists, excellent accommodation. Let dining room
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THE MANAGER

Telegraphic Address: "Phoenix."

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EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES.

Imperial Bouquet per	100	\$5.30
Crown Prince	100	4.65
	50	2.35
	10	.50
Extra Fine (Grand Format)	50	2.35
Nectar	50	2.35
Yildiz	25	1.10
Club Size	10	.40
Non Plus Ultra	100	3.60
	50	1.85
Superfine	20	.75
	100	2.40
	50	1.20

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THE HONGKONG CIGAR STORE CO., LTD.

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The Colorwash that is more
trouble to apply, but which
lasts, not twice, but ten times
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The only reliable COLORWASH
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An ideal flesh-forming Food, containing all the valuable properties
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EXCEEDINGLY
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GENERAL NEWS.

German War Bread. To make bread from infusorial earth is the counsel a German professor gives to his compatriots. He tells them that their forbears made and ate it during the seventeen and eighteen century wars, which is quite true. But he forgets to tell them that the earth was only found in places where there had been workings for salt-petre, and that even then it had to be mixed with meal before it could be wrought into the semblance of bread. When made, however, it was warranted to keep for six years. Such, at least, was the tale told by a certain Herr Sartor—but he was a traveller and a German.

French Aviator Drowned. The French aviator Chemet, who was well known before the war for his prowess and records in waterplanes, has just been drowned in the Rhine in attempting to escape from Germany in company with a friend. Taken prisoner on the French front as the result of a motor breakdown, he was interned at Dillingen, Bavaria. At the end of about 10 days he escaped, and after a tramp of 120 kilometres across Southern Germany, passed into Austria, near Bregenz. All he then had to do was to traverse the Rhine to the south of Lake Constance to find himself in Switzerland, and at liberty. Not being able to swim, Chemet, although provided with a swimming apparatus, was unable to battle against the strong current of the river, flowing down like a torrent from the mountain. He was carried away by it and drowned.

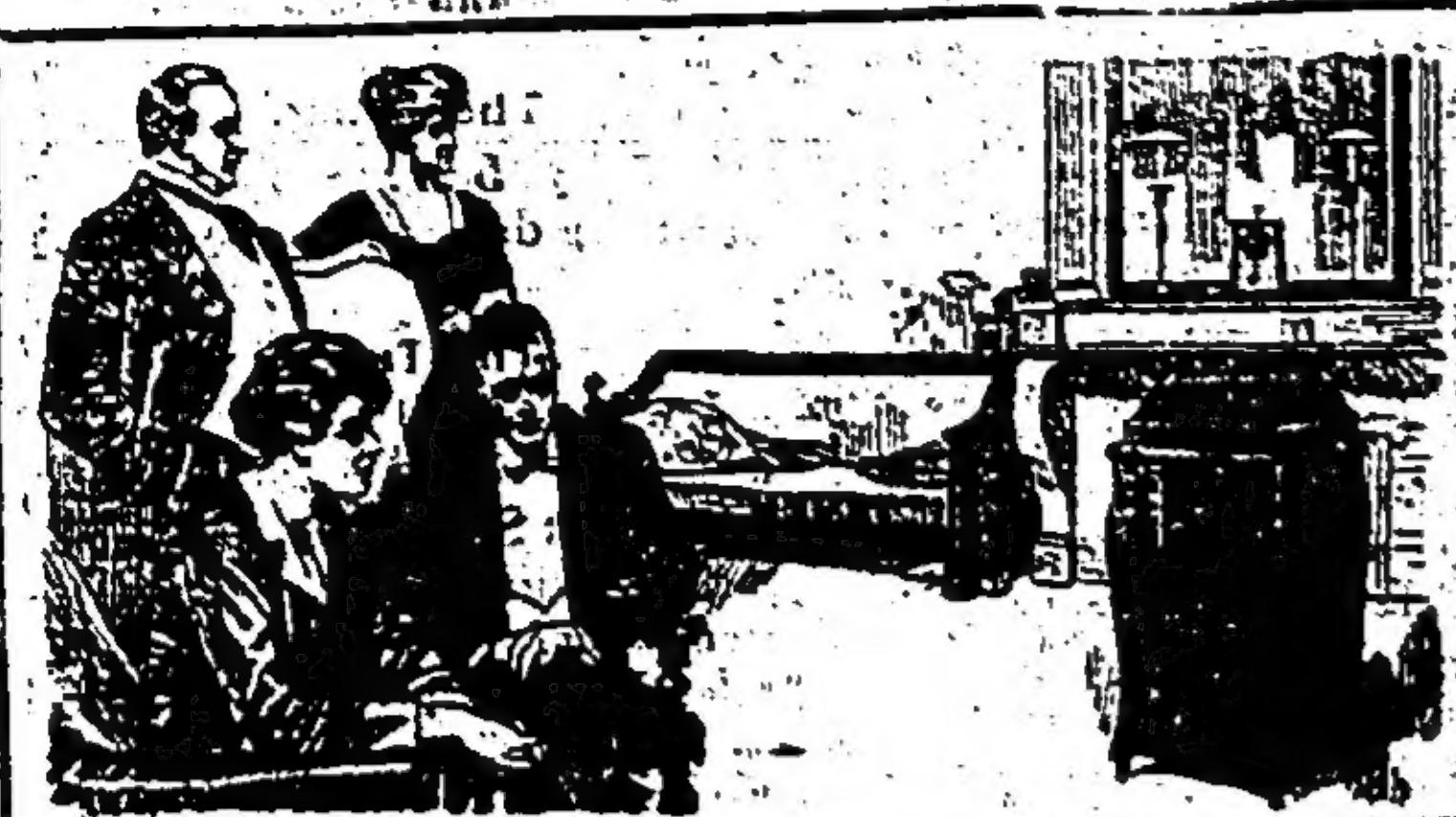
A Light-Weight Recruit. At the House of Commons Tribunal it was stated that an appellant, although barely 18 years of age, of very slight physique, had been called up, and that in spite of the appeal which he had lodged, he had been arrested as an absente. He has, on his two previous appearances before the tribunal, been in khaki, and as he had said that his commanding officer allowed him to go home every night and spend every weekend with his mother, the tribunal adjourned the case for inquiries. It was stated that it was intended to lodge a complaint with the military authorities, as it was absurd that a youth of that build should be asked to carry a pack weighing 10 lb. more than himself. He had been temporarily released from service, and had gone back to his old work as a milk carrier. Mr. Dove—If he can do a milk round, he might be useful in the R.F.C. where they can find work for the half, the maimed, and the blind. He might run about an aerodrome. The Chairman—We will give him till January 1 and have him weighed up again.

More German Conspiracy. Martin Ilse, a German lawyer and editor, has admitted at a police enquiry in New York that he was connected with three prisoners accused of conspiracy to plant bombs aboard ships bound for Allied countries in 1915 and 1916. Ilse's story indicates that bombs were placed on board the Lusitania timed to go off near the Irish coast. The bombs were unexploded when the ship was torpedoed. Carl Schimmel, who had a law office in New York in 1915 and 1916, and is thought to be now in Germany, is believed to have superintended the efforts to bomb the Lusitania. Schimmel's associates are believed to have been Captain von Rinteller, now in the Tombs Prison awaiting trial; Otto Salpert, superintendent of the Adas Line Pier, now interned; Captain Sternberg, now believed to be the commander of a German cruiser; Walter Scheele, a Brooklyn chemist, now in Mexico; Eugene Reiser, a naturalized German restaurateur; Joseph Ziff, a printer in New York; and Walter Uhde, a German subject living in Brooklyn. Ilse said he was in Schimmel's office when the Lusitania was torpedoed, and Schimmel angrily shouted, "The fool; he has ruined my work. I had nine cigar ends planted on the Lusitania, and they would have destroyed her had she reached Liverpool." The Germans are trying to establish whether Sternberg knew the bombs were aboard the Lusitania during the planning.

NOTICES.

VICTROLA

The instrument for every home. 20% discount allowed for cash with order.



It's wonderful wealth of the best music and its ability to play that music exactly as it is rendered by the world's greatest artists, has made the Victrola the favorite instrument in homes of culture and refinement everywhere.

MOOTRIE'S

Save Your Eyes

THE ONLY
EUROPEAN OPTICIAN
IN THE COLONY.

DOCTORS' PRESCRIPTIONS ACCURATELY FILLED.

N. LAZARUS,

OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN
28, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

GENERAL NEWS.

Straits Postal Rates. The increase in our postal rates ought not to astonish anyone who

knows that the local postal rate is probably the cheapest in the world, our new four cents failing to reach the standard of the penny post. The postal rates from the United States is similarly being increased to three cents for foreign letters hitherto requiring only two cents. The new three cent gold rate is about our six cent rate, but much higher than our four cent rate to British Possessions all over the world.—*Singapore Free Press.*

Tragedy at Mussoorie.

Mussoorie, Nov. 24.—A dread

ful tragedy was discovered this

morning when Mr. Fenemore,

Headmaster of the Oakgrove

School, and his wife, were found

shot dead. The tragedy, it is

alleged, has arisen out of friction

of some kind which appears to

have arisen between the late head

mistress, Mrs. Fenemore, and her

teachers, which culminated in an

action at law for libel being filed

against Mrs. Fenemore. The case

was partly heard and appears to

have been going against defendant.

It is surmised that this

circumstance preyed so heavily

on the mind of Mr. Fenemore

to derange his reason. He

appears to have shot his wife in

her sleep and then taken his own

life. Modesty Personified.

Says the *Peking Daily News* under the above heading:—The

Eastern News Agency has

received a telegram from Yenan

stating that although the Yenan

troops have so far only captured

Luchow, they will continue to

fight until the capture of Siafa is

effected. The terms of peace pro-

posed by General Tang Chi-

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WATSON'S
OLD
BROWN BRANDY
25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
TELEPHONE No. 616.

DEATHS.

CHAMBERS.—On December 20, 1917, Alfred Baldwin (Fred) Chambers, London Scottish, aged 18, 2nd son of Mr. and Mrs. P. A. H. Chambers, Shanghai. Died of wounds in France. (By table.)

GALLETTY.—On December 29, 1917, at the Isolation Hospital, Shanghai, John Menzies Campbell Galletty (Messrs. Dodwell and Co. Ltd.), aged 42 years.

NEW.—On December 29, 1917, at 623 East Yuhang Road, S. C. New, aged 56, Secretary of the Kiangnan Dock.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1918.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS RUPTURE.

As was very apparent in the earlier telegrams to hand yesterday, regarding the peace negotiations between Russia and Germany, a rupture was imminent. In our Notes we pointed out and attempted to show how it was that such rupture was inevitable; that sooner or later, as we had all long been of opinion, the ideas of Autocratic Germans and Revolutionary Russians were certain to conflict, and that the result might possibly be a much more serious matter than a mere breaking off of the peace negotiations. The telegram that caused us to dwell on the point and which, as stated, were sufficient in themselves to justify the conclusion that a rupture was imminent, have been followed by fresh telegraphic news from Petrograd and elsewhere, which points unmistakably to the fact that the rupture is all but complete. Russian representatives from all Fronts have been summoned to Petrograd, apparently to discuss the new situation that has arisen, and particularly, it would appear, to express their opinion as to the readiness and the state of preparedness of the Russian Army to resume hostilities, if need be. The representatives, it is reported, declared that the Army would defend the Revolution, but that they "demanded bread and boots," which proves that at least the soldiers are still more concerned about their country and its national ideals than in patching up an ill-considered peace with Germany, with whom, it must surely be plain to them, they have nothing whatever in common. If all that is required to cause the Russian Army to resume what they ought never to have left off while Germany remained an invader on Russian soil, is "bread and boots," that should not long prove an obstacle towards a resumption of hostilities on the Eastern Front.

The Bolsheviks have now, an opportunity of proving themselves to be the possessors of that good government and efficiency with which they have been credited, and it should not be a very difficult matter to re-organise the Army, particularly as there is sure to be much willing help speedily forthcoming from the Allies. However, one or two little points have to be adjusted before that—from our point of view—very desirable state of affairs is likely to take place. Events certainly are shaping themselves in this direction, and the all-important point is "Will they materialise?" Before a right conclusion can be arrived at on that point, one must clearly grasp what has been the rock upon which the split has occurred; how serious or otherwise the rupture is, whether it is likely to be adjusted, or whether such an event is improbable. Judging by M. Trotsky's observations and those of the official organ of the Bolsheviks, it would appear that an adjustment is highly improbable. Both the Bolsheviks' leader and the newspaper not only roundly abuse the Germans but declare that Germany's perfidy is "unmasked." The peace proposals made by Germany indicate that "all the Austro-German promises of a democratic peace are unconscionable lies." The Bolsheviks, we imagine, must be about the last to have so concluded. From the uproar which they are now creating, one thing is clear, namely, that they and the Russians generally are strongly opposed to Germany or any other power directing the affairs of territory recently considered as within the confines of Russia. For Poland, Lithuania, Courland, parts of Livonia and Esthonia they demand a state of independence in keeping with the principle of a nation's right to determine its own destiny. This appears to be the rock upon which the split has occurred, for the Central Powers have made it clear that their hold upon these territories amounts practically to annexation. Happily, this is all too apparent to the Bolsheviks, who now call upon, not only their own Army, but upon the peoples of the Central Powers to prevent "the Austro-German Imperials making war on Revolutionary Russia for the subjection of Poland, Lithuania, Courland and Armenia." They also ask the German soldiers specifically to rise "for the Revolutionary struggle against a prolonged war."

The appeal to the peoples of the Central Powers and to the German soldiers will be in vain. It could only be made by revolutionaries obsessed by the fallacy that peace in the present circumstances can be obtained by an appeal to commonsense, without taking into consideration the many other motives animating our enemies. The Bolsheviks have ample cause in their desire for the furtherance of their ideals and of their distrust in the common enemy to make one supreme effort to resist the invaders still on their soil and thus, in siding in the Allied cause, to bring about the surest way of preventing a prolongation of the war, as also of re-establishing themselves honorably in the opinion of the world, which looks to a great nation to fulfil the obligations upon which it has entered.

The Ferry Fares.

Since the Star Ferry Company announced its intention of raising the price of season tickets as from the beginning of next month, a deal of adverse comment has been voiced by those most affected. We were not surprised, therefore, to receive the very pointed letter on the subject which appeared in our issue of yesterday. The observations of our correspondent most certainly reflect popular opinion on the matter, for there undoubtedly exists a strong feeling against the proposed increase. This is not the first occasion on which the ferry fares have been raised, and, as residents of the peninsula have no other means of crossing the harbour than by using the Company's boats, the public has in the past had no option but to pay the enhanced demands. It is, however, now being pertinently asked whether there is to be no limit to the Company's powers in the matter. We do not doubt that the Company is finding the service more costly to maintain than was the case in pre-war days, but the dividends paid by the concern and the present price of the shares compared with their par value make it clear that the Company is still flourishing. Whether the cost of running the boats can be reduced by an alteration of the time-table, as suggested by our correspondent, or not, we do think the public which keeps the Company alive is entitled to consideration and that its objection to a further increase in fares is deserving of notice in the proper quarters.

Labour and the War.

There have been endless indications since war broke out that the Labour and Socialist elements at Home, in common with their brethren in all the belligerent countries, intend to have a good deal to say when the reconstruction period sets in after the declaration of peace. That is only to be expected, for, apart from the tremendous sacrifices which the masses have been called upon to make in this war, it is upon essentially democratic ideals that the Allies take their stand. Hence the Labourites consider that they have a right to make themselves heard when speaking on behalf of the people in regard to post-war questions. That right no reasonably-minded man will contest. Labour has certainly done magnificently during the war. It has made big concessions in regard to the suspension of Trade Union practices in order that our armies might be supplied with ample shot and shell, and it has given unspuriously of its manhood. But all the way through it has safeguarded its future rights, and, for good or ill, is destined to play a prominent part in the settlement of the thousand and one pressing problems which await solution after the war.

Post-War Aims.

Yesterday we published a summary of the policy of post-war reconstruction which the Labour Party has adopted, and it will be seen to have been of a most sweeping character. It advocates a new social order, based not upon individualist and capitalist production, but on co-operation in production and distribution for the benefit of all. In short, it declares for unadulterated Socialism. Some of its suggestions, such as the enforcement of a minimum wage, the working out of a scheme for the employment of soldiers and war workers, and the nationalisation of the larger sources of production, will most probably be finally adopted, for we have learnt much from the war in some of these respects. But the questions of fiscal policy and a levy on capital, which are raised are likely to lead to a conflict in viewpoint. There are other interests than those of Labour to be safeguarded, and it is well to recognise right away that the British spirit is totally opposed to any general adoption of ultra-idealistic or visionary political theories.

Captain W. H. Hardy.

Captain William H. Hardy, the survivor of Commodore Perry's expedition to Japan will leave for America early this year.

DAY BY DAY.

DILIGENCE IS THE MOTHER OF GOOD LUCK.

To-morrow's Anniversary.—To-morrow is the first anniversary of the resignation from the Cabinet of Mr. A. Henderson, Mr. W. Braes and Mr. G. H. Roberts in consequence of a decision of the Labour Congress on the question of compulsion.

The Dollar.—The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was \$3. 3/8d.

Exempted.—The Moslem Club has been exempted from registration under the Societies Ordinance.

Public Latrines.—The Government proposes to erect public latrines at Stanton Street and at Whiffield.

Rate Reminder.—It is notified for the information of owners and occupiers of tenements that rates for the first quarter of 1918, including the Special War Rate of 7 per cent, are payable in advance on or before the 31st January, 1918.

Telegrams to Russia.

The Great Northern Telegraph Company announces that telegraphic communication with Russia and the whole of Siberia has been restored. Telegraphic communication with Europe via Russia has also been restored, but the traffic is subject to heavy delay.

Food and Drugs.

The return of samples examined under the Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance during 1917 show that the following analyses were made:—Milk, 51; bread, 9; brandy, 8; whisky, 8; beer, 8; port wine, 4; rum, 3; sherry, 2; gin, 2; and flour, 1. Of these, five samples of milk, two of bread and one of whisky were found to be adulterated.

The Dental Board.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to re-appoint Dr. George Ernest Aubrey, Dr. Oswald Marriott, Dr. Frederick Howard Kew, and Dr. Joseph Whitelocke Noble to be Members of the Dental Board for a further term of three years, with effect from the 17th July, 1917, and to appoint Dr. E. Evans Jones to act during the absence of Dr. Noble until further notice.

Grave-Digger Robbed.

A grave-digger at Mount Caroline Cemetery has reported to the Police that last night a number of men entered his house, bound his wife, four men and himself hand and foot, gagged them with pieces of wood and threatened them that if they made a noise they would hit them with revolvers they were carrying. The robbers then ransacked the house and took away with them money, jewellery and clothing to the value of \$240 44.

Alleged Juck Robbery.

Four men were charged before Mr. J. B. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with robbery on a junk. The story as told by Inspector Sim was that on the night of January 1, five men got a sampan at Canal Bridge and went to the junk which was lying at Kellett Island. They boarded her and, after threatening the occupants, took away money and jewellery. The junk people blew a whistle which was heard by Sergeant Floyd at Wanchai Police Station and he telephoned to No. 2 Police Station. Detectives were sent out and the four defendants were arrested. The case was adjourned.

Clothes Wouldn't Fit.

Two men were charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. J. B. Wood, with being in unlawful possession of 79 tins of prepared opium. Evidence was given by a Chinese Revenue Officer, who said that when he asked to search the basket which the first defendant was carrying, the man said that it did not belong to him, and that he was bringing it ashore for another man who had paid him some money. Mr. F. X. D'Almada who defended, said that the clothes in the basket did not fit the first defendant or second either. He would like the men to be taken outside and have them tried on. This was done and the clothes were found to be much too small. Revenue Officer Clark said that he had no reason to doubt the story of defendant. His Worship discharged the men.

NEW GERMAN OUTRAGE.

Trap for Red Cross Workers.

Mr. H. Perry Robinson writes to the *Daily News* from France under date of November 4 as follows:—

Since the fighting on Oct. 30 31 comparative quiet has prevailed on the main battle-front. When the enemy's immediate counter-attacks failed to make any impression on our new line heavier attacks seem not to have been attempted. During the day and night following our advance the Canadians had to repel five counter-attacks in rapid succession on the north side of Passchendaele.

These, though promptly delivered and with considerable strength in proportion to their frontage, were evidently made by local support troops, and large reserves were not drawn upon. Probably the firmness of our line and the severity with which all these attacks were treated by our artillery warned the Germans that heavier operations would only increase their losses.

At all events, no later attempt to recover lost ground has been made. Shelling on both sides, however, has been almost continuously heavy, the enemy in particular, besides shrapnel and high explosives of all sizes, using great quantities of lacrymatory, mustard, and other gas shells.

More than once recently I have referred to the difficulty of getting the wounded from these dreadful battle-fields, and told how the Germans in various ways take advantage of our humanity and the respect we show for all Red Cross work. They have invented a new trick. The men in our forward positions hear an apparently English voice crying "Stretcher bearer, stretcher bearer," from somewhere out in the waste. The patrol goes out in the direction of the sound, and when a little distance away from our lines is fired on by German snipers or machine-guns from shell holes.

In contrast to this is a letter found on a German prisoner dated Sept. 23, which reads:—"Our stretcher bearers are now on the roads, and bringing in the wounded. They carry the Red Cross flag, and can go up to the front line unmolested. The English even let the ambulance drive up without firing."

An even more unpleasant story is unfolded in a diary which we have captured of men of the Landwehr Division. Less than two miles behind the German front line, in the flooded area beyond the Yser, nearly due east from Pervyse, on the Belgian front, is a little village called Leke. Naturally, as it is far within the shelled radius it has long been evacuated by civilians. Now in this diary we find:—"Fifty young women and girls have been working on concrete dog-ends at Leke. It is in the zone of fire, and was shelled no longer ago than yesterday. It is a shameless deed, which cannot be surpassed even in the imagination. It is all simply incredible."

But how does the German diarist know that this "shameless deed" is being done? The diary tells us, "It is my duty to take the gang of forty-seven women to Leke every morning and bring them back in the evening." From another source we learn that orders have recently been given to observe great economy in the use of concrete, "owing to the shortage in raw material." It is impossible not to wonder how far this shortage of raw material is due to difficulties of importation from neutral countries owing to recent incidents.

I have already commented on the extraordinary statement of a recent German communiqué that the first defendant was carrying a whale which was lost when we had never attacked it, but was subsequently recovered by gallant counter-attacks. I referred to the fact that some of our patrols who pushed on beyond our lines reported that Passchendaele had been evacuated, and opened a pocket which had seized the snow there. We now know from German sources that this was true. The German garrison of the village simply ran from it in terror, but when we showed no sign of the hated English, who did not occupy the place they were

1893.

HONGKONG TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

(Compiled from the "Hongkong Telegraph" files for the week ending January 13, 1893.)

The Dollar.

January 5.—The rate of the dollar on demand to-day is 2/8d.

The Tamar.

January 6.—H. M. S. Tamar, with naval reliefs in the Far East, arrived at Singapore this morning and will leave to-morrow for Hongkong. She must have made splendid passage out, being at least four days ahead of time. She brings "new crews for the Alacrity, Caroline, Mercury, Pigmy, Plover, Redpole, and Victor Emanuel—over 900 men in all."

Crown Colony Federation.

January 7.—A leading article contains the following:—"It is not for Hongkong to take the initiative in Crown Colony Federation, though rather than let it drop we would do it gladly. But Ceylon is naturally fitted to take the lead being bigger and older. If not Ceylon, then Singapore as being more heavily oppressed, and more united. If both decline, then it will be for Hongkong to take up the forlorn hope, first setting the example of forcing the Colonial Office to sanction an Unofficial Majority. It can be done, easily enough, as other Colonies have done before. Then, when Hongkong is free to rule itself, it will be free to talk of federation."

Gap Rock.

January 9.—At last Gap Rock has been supplied with detonating signals, which will be of great value to shipping. The patrol goes out in the direction of the sound, and when a little distance away from our lines is fired from Gap Rock Light-house:—"An explosive report like a gun every ten minutes." It would be an additional favour to the mercantile community if the size of the gun could be stated, or if some indication of the distance at which it is audible could be given.

Sir Chaloner Alabaster.

January 10.—As we stated some time since would certainly be the case, Sir Chaloner Alabaster will not return to Canton to resume his duties as British Consul-General. In fact he has resigned his position in the Consular Services and retires on a well-earned pension. Ill-health is given as the reason for Sir Chaloner's retirement, but it is an open secret that when he left Canton he had no intention whatever of returning. Alabaster was one of the ablest and most independent British Consuls in this part of the world, and he will be greatly missed.

Combined Chair and Ricksha.

January 11.—An ingenious citizen has taken out a patent for a combination of hill-chair and ricksha. It appeared in the streets a few days ago, and raised shouts of laughter among the coolies. Then the owners went up the hill in the chair, leaving the wheels at the bottom and somebody stole them, and now the patent is for sale at a nominal price.

"Some" English.

January 11.—A coolie charged yesterday at the Police Court with having used his licensed ricksha to carry cargo, produced the following letter from his employer, which is a lovely specimen of English as she is spoke:—"Dear Sir.—The 'Only' have brought my meat & co. on Saturday home with his ricksha and of he has not committed any other crime I think you shall not put him in trouble.—Yours most obedient.—(Signed \$2 or 7 days, and the document forwarded to the Chicago Exhibition.)

Profit-seeking in Japan.

Profit-seeking in Japan is carried to a point that would be almost impossible in any other country, says the *Japan Chronicle*. Not satisfied with the enormous profits made during the last few years, amounting in many cases to an average of 50 per cent, the spinning mills have agreed to adopt a policy of restocking, output not because there is any evidence of over-production, but with the deliberate intention of forcing up prices and making the consumers pay more. As a result the last five days prices on the yarn market have been soaring. At the same time there is not the slightest sign of the spinning mills increasing their output. It will be interesting to see how long the Japanese can carry on.

DEATH OF MR. UN KAM-WA.

Succumbs Suddenly at Canton.

It is with regret that we have to record the death of Mr. Un Kam-wa, one of the best known members of the Chinese community, which took place suddenly at Canton, yesterday. Mr. Un was paying a visit to the southern metropolis and was, apparently, in good health when he left. The body is being brought to Hongkong to-morrow.

The deceased was educated at Queen's College, and, after being a teacher at his old school for some time, acted as interpreter at the Supreme Court for two years. From that time onwards he has been identified with commercial matters and was, at the time of his death, one of the most successful men in the Colony. He was sole proprietor of the Wah Hing, a firm of exporters, Director of the Fuk Wa Banking and Insurance Company, Chairman of the Ying Lee Co., Ltd., Director of the Star Manufacturing Co., was interested in one of the leading pieces goods firms and was at one time in partnership with the late Sir Chentung Liang-cheng.

The Late Mr. Un Kam-wa.

The deceased had prominently identified himself with public institutions and was a generous member of the Committee of the Po Leung Kuk. He was also a member of the Chinese Cemetery, on the Committee of the Exporters Association in the British Chamber of Commerce, and on the Executive Committee of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. He was also President of the Chinese Club. In connection with the Hongkong Police Reserve, he had shown great generosity and when the Chinese British subjects were first anxious to enrol themselves in the then Volunteer Corps the late Mr. Un offered to make himself responsible for the equipment of the section. It was thought, however, that a Chinese Police Reserve Company would be better, and Mr. Un then offered \$3,000 towards the cost of the uniforms and also promised to raise whatever further sum was needed. For this he was specially thanked by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Since then the deceased had made many contributions and was a founder member of the Headquarters Club.

It will thus be seen that the Colony has lost one of its most public spirited benefactors.

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RACE PROSPECTS.

Particulars of Hongkong Owners' Stables.

For several weeks past now, there has been a steady influx of ponies for the forthcoming Races in February, and owners and trainers have been getting busy discovering the merits of the various mounts. Happy Valley presents an animated appearance every morning and although serious time-taking has not yet become of much value, watches have been recording the speed of the initial gallops to good purpose.

A representative of *Telegraph*, who visited Happy Valley this morning, learned that over fifty subscription griffins have so far come down from the North and been drawn for. From what has already been seen of them, they are decidedly above the average. There has been keen competition this year for Derby griffins and high prices have been paid by several ambitious stables. It is the general opinion that the classic race will be a more open affair than even it was last year, but the remainder of the training season will doubtless fine matters down to a small selection. Among the old ponies, there are some well-known winners due to compete.

Sir Paul's stable will this year consist of four Derby ponies, which are due to arrive next week, and among his old ponies are *Perfection*, *Dahlia*, *Dandy Dahlia* and *Attraction*. *Dahlia* (s. *Harclini*). There will also be at least four subs.

John Peel's string is yet to be completed, but it is definitely known that in addition to what is said to be a "crack" Derby runner there will be the old ponies *Silverstreak*, *Sandy* and *Sir of Don*, the first-named being thought one of the best of the old ponies.

& *Ellis Kadcoris* is known to have three Derby ponies, a sub, and Australian Chief, *Pingwu* Chief, *Beewer* Chief and *Kalgan* Chief, mounts known to Hongkong race-goers.

Mr. *Kortes* is the joint possessor of *Fairy Light*, (the winner of the Shanghai Derby), *Christmas Light* and *Beacon Light*, and will also have five Derby mounts and four subscription griffins, a sufficiently strong stable to warrant some expectations.

Mr. *Henry Hampshire* is expecting two Derby griffins down during the coming week, and, in addition to two subscription griffins, will have last year's winning pony, *Northlands*, again doing duty.

Mr. *H. P. White* will own three Derby candidates, one old pony, *Spec*, and some subs.

Mr. *Beswick* has the old pony *Arizona* and two subs.

It would be possible to give a whole list of other stables, but the above, which may be said to be the principal, give an idea of the preparations which are being made. There are to be at least two new stables this year. Mr. *Eretrite* of Shanghai, owner of the well-known "Sand" stable, coming down to compete, and also Mr. *de Journe*, who is owning three subs. It will be learnt with regret that Mr. *Era*, whose mounts did so well last year, is not being represented.

BANK RETURNS.

Following are the returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st December, 1917, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks:

Bank. Average Specie. Bank. Average Specie. Reserve. Chartered Bank... \$5,577,429. \$5,000,000. Sterling Bank... \$11,433,006. 17,000,000. Merchant Bank... \$1,149,504. 550,000.

Total... \$19,160,029. 22,550,000. Sterling Securities deposited with the Crown Agents valued at \$150,000.

Securities with the Crown Agents \$110,000.

Germany's Food Substitutes. With no less than 7,000 food substitutes, Germans cannot complain of the lack of variety on their menu, as seen in *the Peking Evening Times*.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENT.

FAIRALL & CO.
ARE SHOWING
LONG WINTER COATS
COSTUMES
FURS
CHILDREN'S COATS
AND
FUR SETS.
TELEPHONE 644

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Election of a J. P. Representative.

Notice is given that the term of office of the Honourable Mr. Henry Edward Pollock, representative of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace upon the Legislative Council, expires on the 16th day of January, 1918; and that he has expressed his willingness to stand again.

In the event of another Justice of the Peace being nominated, a meeting of the Justices other than Government officials will be held at the Magistracy on Monday, the 28th day of January, 1918, from 12 noon to 1 p.m., for the purpose of electing a representative of the Justices upon the Legislative Council. Justices of the Peace, who are Government officials, are not entitled to take part in these proceedings.

Every candidate must be nominated in writing by one Justice, and seconded by another, and the nomination delivered to the undersigned not later than Monday, the 15th January, 1918.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

Orders issued by Mr. E. Ralphs, State:

Y.M.C.A. Division. Tuesday, January 8th.—8 p.m. Squad and Stretcher Drill.

Saiyungpun Division. Monday, January 7th.—4.15 p.m. Recruits, Squad Drill.

Wednesday, January 9th.—2.30 p.m. Bind Practice.

Thursday, January 10th.—4.15 p.m. Recruits, Squad Drill.

Saturday, January 12th.—2.30 p.m. Bind Practice.

Queen's College Division. "A" Section.

Thursday, January 10th.—2.00 p.m. Bands and Practice.

Friday, January 11th.—4.20 p.m. Squad Drill.

"B" Section.

Monday, January 7th.—4.20 p.m. First Aid Class.

Tuesday, January 8th.—1.20 p.m. Squad Drill.

Thursday, January 10th.—4.20 p.m. First Aid Class.

Friday, January 11th.—4.20 p.m. Squad Drill.

Members transferred to "A" Section will be medically examined at the Normal School on Monday, January 7th, between 1.20 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Victoria Division.

Friday, January 11th.—5.15 p.m. Squad and Stretcher Drill.

Salt Revenue Surplus. The sum of \$2,000,000 has been handed over to the Chinese Government by the Quintuple Powers, being surplus of the salt revenue for November, 1917, says the *Peking Evening Times*.

SOLE AGENTS:
SUZUKI & CO.
TEL. 468
ALEXANDRA BUILDING

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

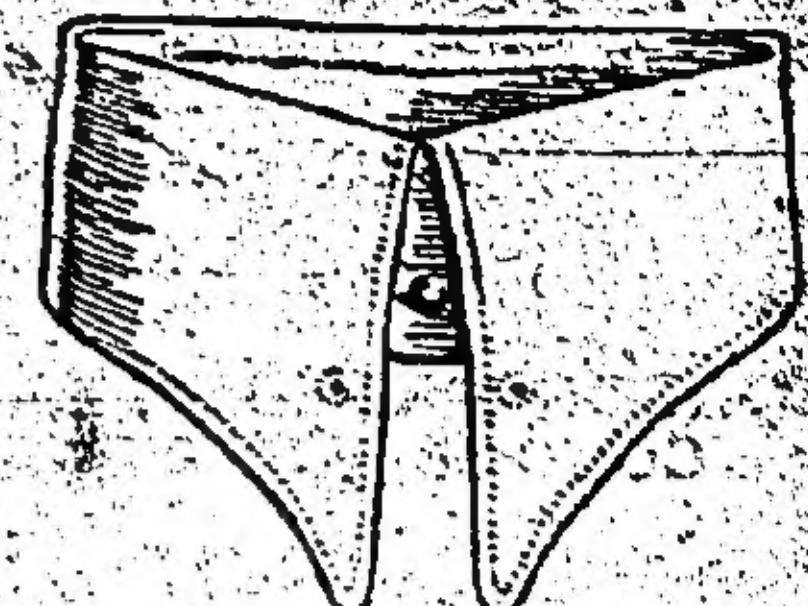
POULTRY.

OUR
HOUSE FED CAPONS
AND
CHICKENS
ARE THE BEST IN THE EAST
—10:—
TENDER EATING, DELICATE
FLAVOUR---TRY THEM.

Summit TINSOFT COLLARS

SHAPE 68.

An improved Polo Shape made from soft Oxford Matt material. It has neatly blunted points and is made with eyelet holes for safety pin.



STOCKED IN HALF SIZES 14 to 18 1/2 inches.

MACKINTOSH
CO., LTD.
MEN'S WEAR SPECIALISTS,
16, DES VŒUX ROAD.
TELEPHONE NO. 26.

Wm. Powell Ltd.
TELEPHONE 346

“THETA” UNDERWEAR

is absolutely all wool and unshrinkable, it is made by one of the oldest makers of Underwear in the United Kingdom. Comfort being assured.

WE STOCK IT IN ALL WEIGHTS.

KNITTED WAISCOATS AND SWEATERS
GOLF HOSE, SOCKS, ETC.

THE ANDERSON MUSIC CO., LTD.

SOLE AGENTS

FOR

BROADWOOD PIANOS

NEW MODELS JUST RECEIVED.
SPECIALY PREPARED FOR THIS CLIMATE

16, DES VŒUX ROAD. TEL. 1322.

D.C.L.

Malt Extract:

with

Cod Liver Oil.

The Distillers Coy. the largest firm of Distillers in the World, has at its disposal a supply of the best and choicest barley procurable, which is malted on their own premises by the most scientific methods of manufacture.

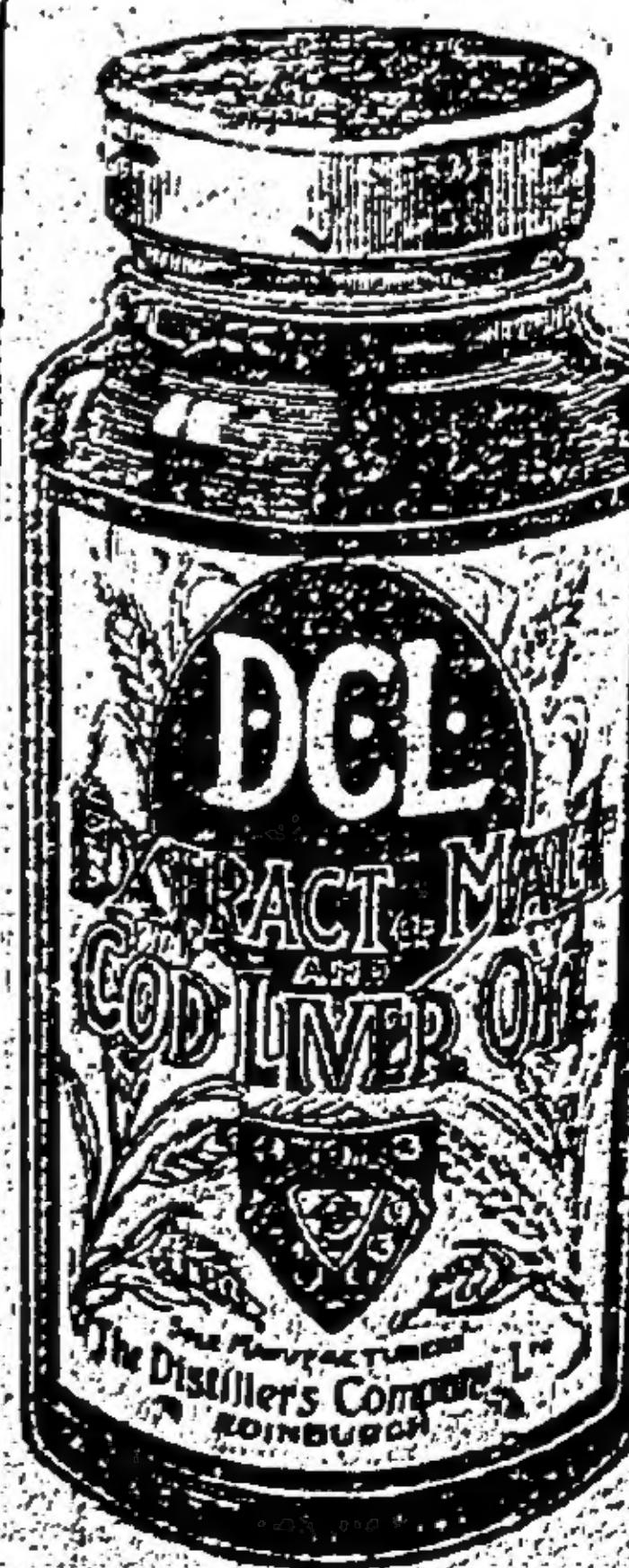
SOLE AGENTS—

CANDE, PRICE & CO., LTD.
TEL. NO. 135. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRE, HONGKONG.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENT

“Viyella” SHIRTS
with Collars
To match
PYJAMAS
DRESSING GOWNS
“Viyella” (Regd.)

MACKINTOSH
CO., LTD.
MEN'S WEAR SPECIALISTS,
16, DES VŒUX ROAD.
TELEPHONE 28.



EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

THE FOOD SITUATION.

London, January 3.
Lord Rhondda, in a speech to the Food Ministry said he was willing to make grants in order to encourage the establishment of communal kitchens. The food situation need occasion no alarm. The scheme for compulsory rationing was nearly complete and would be applied after Cabinet sanction. The margarine output would shortly equal that of before the war and tea supplies would soon improve and prices be reduced. He foreshadowed a considerable temporary shortage of meat.

SPANISH PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED.

Madrid, January 3.
The King has dissolved Parliament. The elections have been fixed for February 17 and the meeting of the new Parliament for March 11.

SHANGHAI LIBEL ACTION.

\$25,000 Claimed as Damages.

The case was continued on Saturday in the Mixed Court Shanghai, (says the *N. C. Daily News* of December 31) before Mr. M. F. Perkins, American Assessor, and Magistrate Li, in which Mr. H. D. Rodger is suing T. L. Wong to recover \$25,000 damages for libel.

Mr. Rodger conducted his own case with the assistance of Mr. Haskell and Mr. E. W. Godfrey appeared for the defence.

Mr. G. F. Lindsey, of Meers, Lowe, Bingham and Matthews, was called and he stated that he had prepared a statement of Mr. Rodger's accounts for the past three months.

Mr. Godfrey objected to this evidence being sprung on him at the last moment.

Mr. Rodger stated that the evidence was only brought to show the Court the actual damage that had been suffered.

Mr. Godfrey, in outlining the facts of the case, from the defendant's point of view, said that a friend of Wong's had some difficulty with regard to a contract for purchase of a motor car and the defendant was asked to take him to a lawyer. Now, taking cases to lawyers was not a thing which Wong was accustomed to do, in spite of the fact that his position as interpreter at the Chinese Police Station would allow him, if he wished, to introduce hundreds of cases. Wong knew Mr. Rodger had known him from the time he joined the International Correspondence School to take up certain studies. He took his friend to the plaintiff and introduced him, and asked the plaintiff to take up the case at a reasonable fee. Wong did not ask for, did not expect and did not ask for anything in the shape of commission. It was not correct that the case was taken to Mr. Rodger about November 8, just before the race. Mr. Rodger's and Mr. Haskell's statements with regard to that were inaccurate. The case was taken during October and that the defendant was in a position to verify by documents which he had in his possession. The master was taken up by Mr. Rodger and there was nothing more for the defendant to do for some time; in fact, as far as he was concerned, he had practically finished with it. Later Mr. Rodger met Wong during November and asked him to come to his office. Wong called and the plaintiff was not in. He went on another occasion and met Mr. Rodger outside the office in his car. In the meantime the defendant had been approached by a certain Chinese in connection with some coolie business, into the details of which counsel did not think necessary to enter and he made a proposal to the plaintiff that he should go and see his consular authorities in connection therewith. Mr. Rodger took him into the office and they both went to the American Consulate. On the way there was a discussion in the car on the question of commission which Mr. Rodger expressed a desire to pay Wong. At the Consulate, Mr. Rodger was apparently unable to see the Consul-General, but on the next day Wong again called on Mr. Rodger and it was then explained that there was nothing in the coolie matter. Then Wong would tell the Consul-General, the case was again adjourned.

STREET PREACHING.

Chinese Convicted on Two Charges.

The case of the Chinese charged with street preaching, using indecent and abusive language to the Police and causing an obstruction in Ramsey Street was continued this morning at the Magistracy, before Mr. Dyer Ball.

Trooper 888 J. H. N. Mody, of the Mounted Police, gave evidence. He stated he was on the 3rd inst. on patrol with Sgt. Arnold in Ramsey Street. The Sergeant dispersed several crowds listening to street preachers. With the exception of defendant, all the preachers moved off when ordered. The defendant, on being asked to move on, used filthy and indecent caths in Chinese and the Sergeant dismounted and arrested the man. As the man struggled and was violent, he was handed over to an Indian Sergeant.

The defendant brought a Chinese Catholic to say he was a good man.

Sgt. Arnold asked the Magistrate permission to ask defendant, why, if as alleged, he had been whipped by the Sergeant, he did not report the matter on being charged before Inspector Kent at the Central Station. He said he had forgotten whether he had or not.

Inspector Kent said he had not.

The Magistrate decided to convict defendant of using indecent and filthy language to the Police and also of causing an obstruction. Defendant would be required to find a surety and the two to sign bonds of \$50 each for his good behaviour for six months; in default, he would be imprisoned for one month, with hard labour.

safe, returned to his desk and asked Wong for his initials, was told, and proceeded to write out a cheque for \$80, being the equivalent of £1s. 60 which had been mentioned previously as the amount of the commission. This was offered to Wong, who refused to take it. Wong would tell them that he actually saw Mr. Rodger write "T. L. Wong" on the stub of the cheque book. He refused to accept the cheque but was persuaded by Mr. Rodger and eventually said "Very well then. You buy Champions' tickets with it and if we win, then you shall have half share with me." That was the arrangement which was come to. Now, counsel called for and notified Mr. Rodger to produce that cheque book and Mr. Rodger produced a stub and also the cheque from the bank. Now the cheque and also the stub were made out in the name of Mr. Chill, the member of the Race Club, whom Mr. Rodger had met with the purpose of buying tickets, but on being asked for the counterfoil in the cheque book it would be seen that the name of T. L. Wong was entered there in white ink characters, and he had written a little less bold was written "T. L."

Mr. Rodger objected and said that was not the case and promised to produce the counterfoil again at the next hearing. After a further adjournment by Mr. Godfrey, the case was again adjourned.

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Administrative Orders issued by Major H. A. Morgan, Administrative Commandant, state—

Strength.

Loc. Corp. F. C. Goodman rejoined the Corps on 22.12.17 and is posted to "B" Company, No. 8 Platoon. Private F. J. Braga joined the Corps on 23.12.17 and has posted to "A" Company, No. 4 Platoon. The Administrative Commandant records, with deep regret, the death of the Private H. M. Bain, "B" Company, on 29th December, 1917. Pte. F. A. Coleman, "B" Company, is permitted to resign, on being granted a Commission as Lieutenant in the R. N. V. R. dated 2nd January, 1918. Pte. E. H. Summers, "D" Company, resigned on 27th December, 1917. Pts. J. O. Wiseman, "A" Company, is permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, dated 10th December, 1917. Pte. W. J. W. Johnston, "A" Company, is permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, dated 21st December 1917.

Promotions.

Engineer Company dated 1st January, 1918.—Corp. L. J. Blackburn to be Company Q. M. Sergeant; Corp. J. R. Kynoch to be Sergeant; Sapper W. N. Fleming to be Lance Corporal; Sapper J. McCormick to be Lance Corporal; Sapper J. B. Thompson to be Lance Corporal.

Transfers.

Pte. H. Humphreys, "B" Company, is transferred to "D" Company, No. 2 Section, dated 23rd December, 1917. Sergeant J. H. Barrington, Engineer Company, is transferred to "B" Company, dated 2nd January, 1918.

Leave.

Spr. N. MacArthur, Eng. Coy., is granted 2 months' leave, from 21.12.17. Gr. J. Bentley, Arty. Coy., is granted 21 days' leave, from 21.12.18. Pte. A. Mountain, Stretcher Bearer Section, is granted 2 months' leave from 30.12.17. Pte. N. D. Pullen "A" Company, is granted 6 months' leave, from 7.1.18. Spr. T. Miller, Eng. Coy., is granted leave from 3.1.18 to 30.1.18. Pte. T. J. Fisher, Mounted Section, is granted 1 month's leave, from 3.1.18. Spr. L. S. Straube, Eng. Coy., is granted 3 months' leave, from 2.1.18.

Field Operations.

The following remarks by the General Officer Commanding China Command, are published for the information of all concerned:—"I was much pleased with the endurance shown by those members of the Hongkong Defence Corps who marched in all the way from Lo Wu to Kowloon Ferry, taking part in this Field Day on the way."

Medical Certificates.

Medical certificates for exemption from parades etc. must be obtained from one of the Medical Officers of the Corps.

Dress.

Warrant Officers will not wear belts and sidearm in walking-out dress. All Warrant Officers' Jackets will have side pockets in future.

Examination for Promotion.

An examination will be held early in April next.

Communication Drill.

A Communication Drill will take place at Headquarters on Tuesday, 8th instant, at 6.30 p.m. Officers and N.C.O.s of "A" and "B" Companies will attend. Other Officers and N.C.O.s may attend if they so desire. Infantry Training 1914, Sections 1 to 26, will be practised.

Lecture.

The Administrative Commandant will give a lecture at Headquarters on Thursday, 10th instant, at 5.30 p.m. on Map Reading, 1914, and Sketching.

N.C.O. Course.

Officer's Part 2 will be fired.

Communication Drill.

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COMMERCIAL NEWS.

World Crops.

The International Institute of Agriculture at Rome issue estimates of the total yield of crops in a number of countries. For Spain, France, Scotland, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Canada, United States, British India, Japan, and Algeria the aggregate wheat crop is put at 482,958,000 quintals, representing 98 per cent. of the 1916 yield, and 85.2 per cent. of the average for 1911-15. The total yield of rye for Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Canada, and the United States is 37,168,000 quintals, which is 94.8 per cent. of the 1916 crop, and 92.5 per cent. of the average for 1911-15. The barley yield for the same countries as mentioned in the case of wheat (except British India) is 112,596,000 quintals, or 99.7 per cent. of the 1916 crop, and 95.4 per cent. of the 1911-15 average. Oats for the same countries as in the case of wheat (except British India and Japan) is 371,325,000 quintals, or 116.3 per cent. of the 1916 crop and 114 per cent. of the 1911-15 average. Maize is even more satisfactory, the crop being 846,914,000 quintals, which is 128.7 per cent. of the 1916 crop, and 115.4 per cent. of the average of 1911-15. The yield of potatoes in the United States is 60 per cent. over that of 1916, while the yield of the vines in Italy is given as 22 per cent. more than in 1916.

Chinese Cotton.

In connection with Chinese cotton, Messrs. Sun and Co. in their circular of December 2, state:—The market during the past week has seen an entire change in the situation and from a week market reported in our last issue we have a firm one today. Trading has been restricted to a great extent owing to the stringency in the money markets in China, and while a fair business is passing for cash deliveries very little is reported for forward, though buyers are willing to pay heavy premiums for late deliveries. Exports to Japan during the past week are in the neighbourhood of 35,000 piculs and a small business is again reported with that country. There is nothing fresh to add to what has been reiterated in our previous issues and fluctuations will be the order of the day from now on to the end of the China New Year Holidays, after which we expect further activities in the market. Tone of the market firm.

Indian Indigo.

The first forecast of the Indigo crop, based upon reports received from the six provinces which contain practically the whole area under Indigo in British India, shows that the total area sown is estimated at 617,100 acres, which is virtually the same as the revised estimate at the corresponding date of last year. As compared with the final estimate of last year (558,400 acres) the present estimate shows a decrease of 18 per cent. The total yield of dye is now roughly estimated at 70,000 cwt., as against 75,000 cwt. estimated at this time last year, or a decrease of 6.5 per cent. As compared with the final estimate shows a decrease of 26 per cent. Weather conditions at sowing time were favourable, and an extended area was sown with the crop, except in the Madras Deccan, where failure of rains, combined with a fall in prices, curtailed the area to such an extent as to counter balance the increase in all other provinces. The crop has been adversely affected by excessive rain and floods in Bihar, the Punjab, and the western districts of the United Provinces. Elsewhere the condition of the crop is reported to be good.

An International Fleet of Merchantmen.

An Italian paper says that the Entente Powers have agreed to constitute a large international fleet of merchantmen, consisting of enemy and requisitioned ships, to be distributed among the countries most in need of them. The distribution is to be effected by a central board, with branches in the various Allied countries.

SHARE REPORT.

COMPARATIVE SHARE QUOTATIONS.

L.—SELLERS. M.—BUYERS. N.—NOMINAL.

Today's Close Prices	STOCK.	Number of Shares	Par Value Up	Highest to Date	Lowest to Date	Last Dividend and Date	1915.	1915.	1916/7.	1916/7.
							1915.	1915.	1916/7.	1916/7.
	Banks.									
2a. 4590	H.K. & S'hai Banking Corp.	100,000	\$125 all	845 Sept.	785 May	820	545			
s. 3300	Marine Insurances.	10,000	\$250 50	427 Sept.	340 Jan.	426	300			
b. t.115	Canton Ins. Office, Ld.	10,000	£15 £5	180 April	145 Jan.	180	100			
s. 4740	North China Ins. Co., Ld...									
n. ex 73 \$205	Union Ins. S'ty of C'ton, Ld...	15,436	\$250 100	972 Aug.	760 Jan.	1605	730			
b. \$122	Yangtze Ins. Assoc. Ld...	12,000	\$100 60	280 Dec.	200 Jan.	300	190			
b. \$310	Fire Insurances.	20,000	\$100 20	163 Aug.	1274 April	168	131			
s. 473	Cina, Fire Ins. Co., Ld...	8,000	\$250 50	420 Sept.	385 Jan.	420	290			
s. 473	H'kong Fire Ins. Co., Ld...									
s. 177	Douglas Steamship Co., Ld...	20,000	\$50 all	104 Dec.	2834 Mar.	137	73			
a. 8166	Indo-China (Combined Steam Navigation Co., Ld...	60,000	£5 all	234 May	19 Dec.	24	17			
b. 833	Deferred Preferred	60,000	£5 all	117 Dec.	6214 Jan.	186	87			
b. 112	Shell T'port & T'ng Co., Ld...	3,797,610	£1 all	94/6 June	75/ Jan.	120/	86/6			
n. 283	Star Ferry Company, Ld...	40,000	£10 all	391/ Oct.	23 July	41	28			
b. 4994	Refineries.	20,000	\$100 all	134 Sept.	80 Jan.	146	82			
s. 536	China S. Refining Co., Ld...	14,000	P.50 all			41	29			
	Mining.									
a. 40	Kailan Mining Adminstration.	1,000,000	£1 all	35/ April	30/ Dec.	40/	26/			
b. \$250	Raub Australian Gold Min- ing Co., Ld...	20,000	£1 all	440 Mar.	240 Jan.	335	170			
n. 31/3	Tronch Mines Ltd.	16,000	£1 all	25/ Dec.	32/6 Mar.	42/6	25/6			
a. 26	Ural Caspian	796,566	£1 all	43/ April	25/ Jan.	38/9	28/			
n. 28	Oriental Con. Min. Co. Ltd.	429,390	G. \$10 all							
s. & sa. 199	Docks Wharves, Godowns, &c.	60,000	\$50 all	82 Oct.	65 April	98	67			
s. 127	H.K. & W. D. Co. Ltd...	60,000	\$50 all	90 Oct.	56 Mar.	135	78			
s. t.73	Shai Dock & Eng. Co., Ld...	55,700	t.100 all	63/4 Sept.	49 July	55	59			
b. t.66	Shai & H'kew W. Co., Ld...	36,000	t.100 all	100 Dec.	50 April	93	67			
b. 490	Lands, Hotels and Buildings.	20,000	\$50 all	124 Feb.	108 Dec.	118	94			
n. 490	H'kong Hotel Co., Ld...	50,000	\$100 all	114 Jan.	103 Dec.	103	85			
b. 51/2	H'kong Land Investment Co.	150,000	\$10 all	73/4 Jan.	6 July	710	565			
b. 530	H'phreys Estate & F. Co. Ltd.	6,000	\$50 80	44 Jan.	40 Sept.	38	33			
b. t.70	K'loon Land & B'ng Co., Ld.	74,000	t.50 all	97 Mar.	107 Dec.	107	74			
n. 181	Shanghai Lands.	19,500	\$50 all	681/ Mar.	77 Dec.	90	69			
b. 190	West Point Building Co., Ld.	10,000	\$100 all	103 Dec.	99 Jan.	106	89			
b. x. d. t.167	H'kong Central Estates.	10,000	\$100 all							
n. t.61	Cotton Mills.	20,000	t.50 all	180 July	117 Jan.	180	130			
n. t.65	Ewo Cotton S. & W. Co., Ld.	75,000	t.10 all	161 July	114 Feb.	161	114			
b. t.123/2	Kong Yik	8,000	t.100 all	90/4 Sept.	72 Jan.	81	63			
b. t.44	Laou Kung Mow.	40,000	t.50 all	100 May.	77 Jan.	136	81			
b. 7.90	Shanghai Cottons.	175,000	t.5 all	61 Oct.	694 Dec.	790	454			
b. 57	Oriental Cotton Spin. Co. Ltd.	60,000	\$12 all	111 Apr.	91 May	10,35	6,50			
b. \$3.50	Citra Borneo Company, Ld.	50,000	\$5 all	3.65 Mar.	4.95 Oct.	4.90	3.45			
b. \$7.50	China Light, Power, Co. Ltd.	125,000	\$10 all	71 Jan.	10,15 Oct.	10,10	7,50			
b. \$27/4	China Prov't, L. & M. Co. Ltd.	60,000	75 all	35 Jan.	29 Dec.	41	20			
b. & sa. 448	Dairy Farm Company, Ld.	400,000	\$7.50 all	1120 Oct.	520 Jan.	12,10	6,75			
b. 3450	Green Island Cement Co. Ltd.	60,000	\$10 all	45 Oct.	361/2 Feb.	55	43			
s. 293	Hongkong Electric Co., Ld.	6,500	\$25 all	190 Dec.	183 Oct.	190	147			
b. 614	Hongkong Ice Co., Ld.	60,000	\$10 all	34/2 Dec.	25 Jan.	41	26			
b. t.14	Hongkong Tramway Co., Ld.	325,000	5/- all	6 Oct.	5 Apr.	7.50	5/4			
n. 48	Langkats	250,000	G. \$10 all	43/2 May	35 Mar.	40	12			
n. cts. 40	Peak Tramway Co., Ld. (Old)	25,000	\$10 all	101/2 Mar.	9.30 June	10,25	84			
b. 53/4	Do. (New)	50,000	\$10 all	1.00 Mar.	80 cts. Aug.	1,00	90 cts.			
n. 12	Steam Laundry Co., Ld.	20,000	\$5 all	425 Jan.	3 June	3,80	3,00			
n. 45	Union Water-boat Co., Ld.	27,723	\$7 all	18 Jan.	16 Dec.	17	12			
s. 65.50	Watson and Co., Ld.	90,000	\$10 all	7.10 Mar.	6.50 Oct.	7.70	54			
n. 29	William Powell, Limited...	91,000	\$7 all	6.90 Aug.	6 Dec.	72	54			
n. \$10	S. C. Morning Post	6,000	\$25 all	28	28	29	23			
	H'kong Steel Foundry Co. Ld.	7,808	\$10 all	28	28	11	9			

BENJAMIN & POTTS.

Share and General Brokers Princes Building, HONGKONG, Tel. address, Broker.

CORRECTED TO NOON, JAN. 4, 1918.

ANY SUBSEQUENT ALTERATIONS WILL BE FOUND IN "UP TO THE MINUTE SHARE MARKET NEWS."

THE TELEGRAPH DOES NOT HOLD ITSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE QUOTATIONS.

EXCHANGE.

SELLING.

T/T Marks..... 3/4

Demand..... 3/4

30 d/s..... 3/4

